

OK to ENTER
5/23/07 KAB

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action of January 16, 2007, Applicants request re-examination and reconsideration of this application for patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 132.

Claim Status/Support for Amendments

New claims 15-17 have been added. Claims 1-4 have been cancelled. Claims 13 and 14 were cancelled in a previous response (filed on June 27, 2005). Claims 5-12 are withdrawn from consideration. It is understood that claims 5-12, drawn to the non-elected invention, will remain pending, albeit withdrawn from consideration on the merits at this time. Applicants wish to preserve their right to present claims 5-12 in a divisional application(s).

Rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph

The rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as set forth at ¶ 6 of the previous office action (01/04/2006) has been maintained for reasons of record insofar as it is applied to new claims 15-17, which replace canceled claims 1-4.